

REMARKS

In response to the non-final Official Action of July 1, 2008, claims 1, 6, 11, 12, and 17 have been amended to particularly point out and distinctly claim that input from a user received at said cover is converted into standardized signals or messages to be transferred for execution to a processor of any one of said plurality of said mobile communication modules. Support for this amendment can be found at paragraphs [0081] and [0084] of the published application for the current invention (US 2006/0160560). Grammatical amendment has been made to claims 1, 6, 11, 12, and 17-20.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

At section 4, claims 1, 3-6, and 8-14, 16-21 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Mager (US patent application publication 2003/0017839) in view of Engstrom et al., (US 6,999,804, hereinafter Engstrom). With respect to claim 1, it is asserted that Mager discloses each of the elements recited therein, except for a removable cover including a display and a keyboard, with specific reference to Figures 1, 3, 5, and 7 of Mager and paragraphs [0010], [0020], [0022], [0029], [0045], [0046], and [0054]. It is stated that Mager does not disclose the feature that the removable cover includes a display and a keyboard, but the Office asserts that these features are disclosed by Engstrom, with reference made to the abstract, Figures 2-5, and column 4, lines 27-53. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Mager is directed to an interchangeable covering for a mobile electronic communication device. Figure 1 shows interchangeable covering 100 and mobile electronic device 138. The interchangeable covering includes an electronic component 300 as seen in Figure 3. The electronic component includes a switch unit 310, a personalization unit 312, and an interface unit 314. The interface unit communicates with an interface unit 324 of the mobile electronic device 138 when the interchangeable covering is attached to the mobile communication device (Mager, Abstract and paragraph [0029]).

Engstrom is directed to a mobile communications device including an interchangeable covering addition for display and key reorientation. An interchangeable covering is designed to at least partially cover the body of a mobile communications device. The interchangeable covering has a plurality on input keys and electronic components. Data and/or logic stored in the electronic components is to at least facilitate redefining the function of at least one of the input keys of the mobile communications device and re-orient the display and input keys of the mobile communications device (Engstrom, Abstract).

In claim 1 as amended, the cover processor is configured to process signals between the keyboard of the cover and a processor of any one of a plurality of mobile communication modules such that input from a user received at said cover is converted into standardized signals or messages to be transferred for execution to a processor of any one of said plurality of said mobile communication modules. As a result of this feature, regardless of the layout of the keyboard for a particular cover implementation, the mobile communication module will receive the same input signals (see US 2006/0160560 at paragraph [0084]). Because the input at the keyboard of the cover is processed by the cover itself, input from a user on either a QWERTY or ITU-T type keyboard (regardless of whether T9 logic is used or not), will be received by the mobile communications module such that it may not distinguish between covers (US 2006/0160560, paragraphs [0081]-[0084]).

In contrast to this feature, Engstrom does not disclose a similar processing of inputs in the cover. Rather, the cover instructs the mobile communication device to interpret key actuations differently. When the interchangeable cover is in place, the actual function of an input key in the mobile communications device is redefined (Engstrom, Column 4, lines 15-16). Thus, the actual re-mapping of functions to keys is not done in the cover (as set forth in amended claim 1), but is performed in the mobile communication device. The cover instructs the mobile communication device to interpret actuation of a certain key, say the “#XYZ” key, as an input of the number “2”. Another cover with different orientation can instruct the mobile communication device to

interpret the actuation of the same key “#XYZ” as an input of the “#” character (see Engstrom, column 4, lines 19-26).

Thus, in Engstrom, actuation of the same key may result in different inputs being generated, depending on the currently used cover, and *vice versa*, wherein if the same input is to be made, actuation of different keys may be required with different covers. This requires that the mobile communication module is provided with a mapping between key identifiers and the respective meanings associated therewith, which is a rather complicated procedure, and which is not transparent from the perspective of communication device side. In the current invention the processing is instead performed in the cover. The mobile communication device is not instructed how to interpret key actuations (wherein the keys are on the mobile communication device), but is instead provided with the actual input made, which always has the same meaning irrespective of the way it has been input and through which key(s). In the above example, the mobile communication module can not distinguish if an input of the word “in” has been made by a QWERTY type keyboard by pressing “l” and “n” or by an ITU type keypad by pressing “4” and “6”. As seen from the communication module, this is totally transparent. In this manner, the communication module can be used together with a variety of cover devices according to the invention, or *vice versa*, a given cover can be used with a variety of communication modules.

Because Mager does not disclose that the removable cover does not include a keyboard, it clearly does not disclose the feature of amended claim 1 of converting input from a user received at said cover into standardized signals or messages.

For all of these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 as amended is not suggested by Mager in view of Engstrom.

For similar reasons, independent mobile communication module claim 6, mobile communication device claim 11, independent method claim 12 and independent mobile communication device cover claim 17 are also not suggested by Mager in view of Engstrom, since each of these claims incorporates features corresponding to those set

forth in amended claim 1 which, as stated above, are not found in Mager further in view of Engstrom.

Since each of the independent claims of the present application are not unpatentable over Mager in view of Engstrom, it is respectfully submitted that dependent claims 2-5, 8-10, 13, 14, 16, and 18-21 are also not unpatentable over Mager in view of Engstrom, at least in view of such dependency.

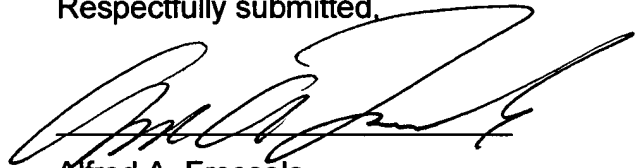
In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application as amended is in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

The undersigned respectfully submits that no fee is due for filing this Amendment. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to deposit account 23-0442 any fee deficiency required to submit this paper.

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WARE, FRESSOLA, VAN DER SLUYS
& ADOLPHSON LLP
Bradford Green, Building Five
755 Main Street, P.O. Box 224
Monroe, CT 06468
Telephone: (203) 261-1234
Facsimile: (203) 261-5676
USPTO Customer No. 004955

Respectfully submitted,



Alfred A. Fressola
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 27,550